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It has been announced from Christiania, Norway, that ex-President Theodore Roosevelt will arrive there on the 2d of May, and will give on that day the address before the Nobel Peace Prize Committee which he has promised. Such an address is required of every Nobel Laureate.

As in former years, the Standing Committee of the French Peace Societies organized a grand Peace Banquet in Paris in connection with the observance of the 22d of February. It was participated in by most of the French peace leaders.

Brevities.

. . . All the friends of peace everywhere are much gratified that Hon. Joseph Allen Baker, who has been in the House of Commons for ten years representing one of the London districts, has been again returned to Parliament. He is said by London papers to have done more perhaps for the cause of international friendship and peace than any other Englishman of his time except Sir William Randal Cremer.

. . . In the recent debate in the French Chamber of Deputies on the Foreign Estimates, Mr. Pichon, the Foreign Minister, said that as a result of the last Hague Conference he had brought in twelve bills approving specific arbitration treaties, and that he would endeavor to introduce an obligatory arbitration clause in future treaties. He was in favor of a government grant to the Brussels Bureau of the Interparliamentary Union, without any interference with the Union's freedom of action. He was optimistic because of the new spirit animating Franco-German relations, and declared that the maintenance of peace was an essential part of the foreign policy of France.

. . . Secretary of Agriculture James F. Wilson says, in *Leslie's Weekly*: "A forty-acre farm of irrigated land will comfortably support a family of five. It costs \$55,000 to make a twelve-inch gun. The money that goes to pay for this gun would reclaim fifteen hundred and seventy-one acres of land, providing homes for one hundred and ninety-six people. When all the guns on all the battleships are shot one time, the government blows away in noise and smoke \$150,000. This would reclaim four thousand acres of land, giving homes to more than five hundred farmers and their families. The money consumed in powder is lost to all the future. The farmer who buys the reclaimed land must pay the government back in ten years, so it does not cost the government anything to build up the country by helping the farmer. We should make more homes and not so many fighting machines."

. . . The Des Moines (Iowa) *Register and Leader*, commenting on Secretary Wilson's figures, says: "If the firing of a single shot by all the guns of the American navy to-day would cost \$150,000, it would be impossible to conceive of the sum which must be shot into smoke every year by all the guns on the globe. And if a single shot of the American navy would gain homes for five hundred people, could not some statesman make himself immortal by suggesting cessation of shooting for a few days?" The *Register and Leader* might have gone a good deal further. Something more fundamental than the shooting needs to cease.

. . . In an address on "Canada" at the dinner of the Canadian Society of New York in December last, Justice William Renwick Riddell, of the Ontario High Court of Justice, spoke in the strongest possible terms of the necessity of peaceful relations between the United States and Great Britain, and of the certainty that they will "continue side by side for right and justice and peace among the nations of the earth." But as certain other good but impatient friends of peace unfortunately occasionally do, he fell immediately off into the strange idea that the quickest and surest way to secure the peace of the world is for the twin fleets of the United States and Great Britain to sail forth under their two flags, bearing the single mandate, "There shall be no more war." That is all very dramatic, and sounds fine and grand — to compel the world by force to lie down at the feet of Peace. But nothing could be more calamitous to the peace of these two nations themselves and that of the whole world than such a Big Peace Cruise of the united Dreadnoughts of the Anglo-Saxon world, as any one must discover who thinks the subject through in the light of history.

. . . A local peace conference was held at High Point, N. C., on February 10, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, in which the speakers were the pastors of the community.

The Peace Spirit in Japan.

BY REV. FRANCIS E. CLARK, D. D., PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

I was very much pleased to note the exceeding friendliness of the people of Japan, high and low, "gentles and commons," shown to their friends from America on a recent visit to "Dai Nippon." I had visited Japan twice before within the last seventeen years, but never have I seen such exuberant hospitality and generous greeting as on this occasion. This was true in part, to be sure, to the large number of Americans, no less than six hundred and fifty of them, who landed on the shores of Japan from the steamship "Cleveland" at the same time, and gave an occasion for a great display of bunting both American and Japanese, and for unlimited "Banzais."

Never before had so many Americans come to Japan on one steamer, for never before had an excursion steamer sailed around the world from New York to San Francisco with a cargo consisting only of tourists and their belongings. But, allowing for the unusual character of the occasion, and the eye to commercial advantage which was not altogether closed, the welcome was still most unusual. It seemed to the tourists as though every man, woman and child in Nagasaki, Osaka, or some of the other cities, was out on the streets to greet them. The babies bobbed up and down on the backs of their older brothers and sisters, and shook their little hands at the strangers, while the older children waved American and Japanese flags, and shouted with all their lungs, "Banzai!" "May you live ten thousand years." Triumphant arches were raised in small cities, under which the visitors must pass, and over a multitude of stores and public buildings the American and Japanese emblems were twined affectionately together.

Nor was the welcome confined to the people on the streets. In every leading city visited by the tourists, the

mayor and other city fathers gave them a special reception, and expressed their pleasure at seeing their guests in no ambiguous terms.

Count Okuma, the greatest living statesman of Japan, received us at his palatial villa in Tokyo, and expressed his regard and appreciation, not only for America and Americans in general, but for the Christian Endeavor movement in particular as an American institution represented there. I was personally accorded the high honor of an audience with His Majesty, the Emperor, Mutsuhito, the one hundred and twenty-second Emperor of Japan in the same dynasty, which I felt was much more than a personal honor, for it was accorded to me as an American, and as a humble representative of some of the religious forces of Japan as well as of America.

But a meeting of peculiar and special interest was a gathering of the Peace Society of Kyoto, which invited my colleague, Mr. Shaw, the secretary of the United Society of Christian Endeavor, and myself, to a dinner in the fine Kyoto hotel. The dinner was in foreign style, and the *menu* was as varied and well served as in any first-class American hostelry; but what particularly interested us was the character of the men who attended the banquet, and the out-and-out sentiments in favor of peace and friendly relations between the two nations represented.

The governor of the ken, or province, and the mayor of the city were absent, but they sent apologies on account of absence from the city. The president of the Chamber of Commerce was there; several of the leading merchants, the president of the Common Council, eminent educators and two well-known American missionaries. The speeches were all of the most cordial and unequivocal character, lauding the blessings of peace, the benefits of arbitration and conciliation, and inveighing against the horrors and the idiocy of unjust war.

When my reply to these cordial addresses was reported in the Japanese papers, I was made to say that "Even if Japan took up arms against the United States, our country would not resent it." Of course I said nothing so absurd, but I did say that "I thought the deep, underlying sentiment of friendship between the people of the two nations was so strong that it would be very difficult to force us into war with each other." This sentiment, after my latest visit to Japan, I believe most devoutly.

There are now two peace societies in Japan, this one in Kyoto, the famous ancient capital of the nation, and another in Tokyo, the present capital, of which the distinguished Count Okuma is the recently elected president, and the well known Friends missionary, Mr. Bowles, a leading promoter.

The brevity of my stay in Japan alone prevented my meeting with the members of this society at a similar gathering. An effective little paper, printed in both Japanese and English, is the organ of these societies. Evidently the sentiment that supports these organizations is a strong and growing one and is pervading all classes of the people.

May I add in closing that the great World's Christian Endeavor Convention in Agra, India, which in November brought together four thousand native Christians, four hundred missionaries of all denominations, and many delegates from other lands, was in itself a peace convention under another name, for "Union," "Fellowship"

and "Fraternity" were watchwords that were heard at every session. The same was true of the scarcely less important Christian Endeavor gatherings I have recently attended in Cairo, Manila, Canton, Hongkong, Honolulu and many cities in Japan. The heart of Christian young people the world around, I am confident, is sound on this subject.

Banquet to Baron d'Estournelles de Constant on His Reception of the Nobel Prize.

It is rare that such a tribute of respect and honor is given to any one by his neighbors and friends as was given to Baron d'Estournelles de Constant on the 30th of January, at La Flèche, France, in appreciation of his reception of the Nobel Peace Prize. The banquet was gotten up by the Federation of Republican Committees of the city. More than six hundred guests were at the tables. Mr. Montigny, Prefect of the Province of La Sarthe, presided. Among those present were very many of the most eminent citizens of the Province of La Sarthe, which the Baron represents in the Senate of France. Before Senator d'Estournelles spoke, addresses were given by Mr. A. Dantzer, secretary of the Federation of Republican Committees, by Commandant André, president of the Republican Committee of La Flèche, Mr. Deysine, Receiver of Finance at Baugé, Mr. Leon Bollée, president of the Aero Club of La Sarthe, Mr. Burgevin, member of the local Council, Mr. Bouttié, Deputy from Mans, Mr. Ajam, Député from Saint Calais, Mr. Hippolyte Laroche, Deputy, and by the chairman, Mr. Montigny. All of these speakers spoke in terms of the highest and warmest appreciation of the great services which Baron d'Estournelles has rendered to the cause of international friendship and peace, to humanity in general and to the true glory of France. After toasts had been drunk to the guest of the evening and to President Fallières, and a telegram adopted for transmission to the Nobel Committee at Christiania, Senator d'Estournelles arose. He was received with unbounded enthusiasm, and the *Journal Fléchois* declares that practically "every sentence of his speech was punctuated with unanimous and ardent applause."

After his introductory remarks and an expression of his deep obligations to a large number of his fellow workers in France, both living and dead, Senator d'Estournelles spoke as follows:

THE BARON'S ADDRESS.

"This day is too beautiful to concern me personally. It is too much like a triumph. I have never desired anything of this kind, especially at this moment, not only because we have not the heart to be rejoicing in the midst of so many national sorrows, but because every triumph is in my view a weakness, a wrong, and in any event a *dénouement*, the commencement of the end. Nor is it a triumph that we have desired to make, in a spectacular way. It is an occasion which we have seized to see one another again; an occasion for reunion, of shaking one another's hands and of recognizing the growing success of our efforts for fifteen years past; an occasion, finally, for counting our numbers, not for the sake of